

ABAC meeting minutes for April 3, 2006

Board members present were Jack Johnson, Stephan Miller, Scott Smith, Ron Sender, Christopher Tonkin, and Ted Packard. Joey Glushko also attended.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31.

Introductions and local conversations. Jack showed us a note sent to ABAC by Rep. Paulsen thanking us for honoring her at the Winter Social.

*The March meeting minutes were approved with one correction.

Update on the recent Bicycling Skills classes in Arlington. Jack told us about the Bicycling Skills class he gave last Sunday. He talked about the demographics and some of the things that were taught. The next class will be given in June and located in Waltham.

Update on regional "cleanup day" for Minuteman Bikeway on Saturday, May 6. Ron talked to Stew Kennedy of the Lexington Bicycle Committee and found out that Starbuck's in Lexington wants to help clean up the Bikeway for Earth Day. Tentatively, there will be five captains from local bicycling organizations and Starbuck's will supply the grunts. Starbuck's would also like to sponsor a cleanup in Arlington. The date for the cleanup will be May 6. Jack thought that we should do it on the same day as it is done in Lexington. Ron thought we could also go to the schools for more volunteers.

We must now decide if we want to participate. We have to decide soon as the information is necessary so that the Starbuck's locations can apply for a grant from the home office. Scott suggested including other organizations such as the Friends of Spy Pond. We formed a subcommittee of Stephan, Ted, Ron, and Christopher to organize and get more participants. Jack asked us to think about what to do in case of rain.

Update on bicycling to school. Scott told us about the Safe Walk to School subcommittee of the TAC. Scott will also serve as the TAC liaison to the Hardy School Safe Walk to School Committee. Hardy has been designated as a pilot program because the principal is somewhat more open to the idea of walking to school. We also heard that Lauren Hefferon will teach a Cycle Kids class at the Hardy School.

Discuss route plan for the upcoming Bike-Arlington Tour on May 21. Jack showed us a tentative route for the tour. The ride is shorter than usual but there are more stops and it goes through the Center twice. We will stop at the Arlington Center for the Arts and the Old Schwamb Mill.

ACTION ITEM: Scott will check on the ACFTA schedule the day of the Tour.

Jack wants to give a bicycling safety talk at some time during the tour. We will start at Hurd Field and end at the Mill. The Mill will be open for tours, and we can provide light refreshments there. Joey suggested an idea for a future tour. She would like to see a tri-community tour stopping at points of interest along the Bike Path.

ACTION ITEM: Jack will check with the police and the Schwamb Mill.

Review/update action items from prior meetings, plus upcoming events. Jack told us about upcoming bicycle skills classes. Ted will attend the next meeting of the Bedford Bicycle Committee. We also discussed Spy Pond Trails Day.

Open forum. Jack told us about a session on roadway markings at the National Bike Summit which promoted the shared arrow as an effective marking for getting bikes to ride in the proper lane position and in the right direction.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25.

*Designates a vote was taken.

The minutes were taken and submitted by Stephan Miller.